

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : (To be assigned) Confirmation No. : (To be assigned)  
Applicant : Kazuki HAYASHIBARA, et al.  
Filed : Concurrently herewith  
TC/A.U. : (To be assigned)  
Examiner : (To be assigned)  
Docket No. : 010482.53148US  
Customer No. : 23911  
Title : Optical Disc Apparatus

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

**STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE**


The relevance of these references to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the Background of the Invention in the specification of the present invention.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #010482.53148US).

Respectfully submitted,

January 15, 2004

  
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| FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce<br>Patent & Trademark Office<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT</b><br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | Attorney Docket No.<br>010482.53148US | Serial No.<br>(To Be Assigned) |
|   | Applicant: Kazuki HAYASHIBARA et al.  |                                |
|   | Filing Date<br>January 13, 2004       | Group<br>(To Be Assigned)      |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|------|------|-------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Examiner Initial      |    | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-Class | Filing Date (if appropriate) |
|                       | AA |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AB |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AC |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AD |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AE |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AF |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AG |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AH |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AI |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AJ |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |          |         |       |           |             |    |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|----|
| Examiner Initial         |    | Document Number | Date     | Country | Class | Sub-Class | TRANSLATION |    |
|                          |    |                 |          |         |       |           | Yes         | No |
|                          | AK | 10-125003       | 5/15/98  | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                          | AL | 2000-222826     | 8/11/00  | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                          | Am | 2001-250318     | 9/14/01  | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                          | AN | 2001-344906     | 12/14/01 | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                          | AO |                 |          |         |       |           |             |    |
|                          | AP |                 |          |         |       |           |             |    |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  | AQ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | AR |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | AS |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| EXAMINER   | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication. |                 |

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